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INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
2 PROSPECT STREET, EAST WILLISTON, NY 11596
(516) 746-0782 • FAX (516) 746-3130



October 22, 2018

Dr. Elaine Kanas
Superintendent of Schools
East Williston Union Free School District
11 Bacon Rd.
Old Westbury, NY 11568-1599
Via hand delivery

Re: North Side School – Retaining Wall and Perimeter Fence

Dear Dr. Kanas:

Thank you for your recent letter including plans for proposed construction on or near the site of the North Side School. While the Village Building Department has received no formal submission, as a courtesy, the Village has taken the preliminary step of reviewing the materials shared.

Along with this letter you will also be receiving correspondence from the Village Building Inspector and the Chief of the East Williston Fire Department. In both of those letters additional information is requested.

The Village's current concerns fall in three areas: safety; questions as to compliance with applicable codes, laws, rules and regulations; and clarification needed with certain parts of the proposal. Upon receipt of the additional information required, any comments provided with this packet will be updated accordingly.

Certainly, as per your letter and those of the Village Building Inspector and Fire Chief, the Village also requests a meeting. We ask that the meeting be scheduled after drawings are resubmitted in accord with the letter of Mr. Jared Mandel.

Finally, upon receipt of a proposal with the information necessary for required permits, the Village will then be able to formally respond.

Sincerely,

HON. DAVID E. TANNER
MAYOR

Enclosures

Cc: Board of Trustees

Chief of Department
PATRICK THEODORE

First Asst. Chief
JAMES CLARK

Second Asst. Chief
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Corresponding Secretary
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October 8, 2018

Elaine Kanas, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
East Williston Union Free School District
11 Bacon Road
Old Westbury, NY 11568

Re: Northside Elementary School – Retaining Wall and Perimeter Fence

Dear Dr. Kanas:

We are writing to you in regard to the proposed retaining wall and perimeter fence on the property of North Side School. The school property is within our response area for the Village of East Williston Fire Department. We are the primary agency for fire and emergency medical services calls.

In reviewing the proposed plans, it was difficult to see the detail required to make accurate recommendations. At the outset, we therefore request a meeting. Missing, or difficult to ascertain from the plans, are the following:

1. Location of fence and wall to existing fire hydrants, and how such fence and wall might obstruct access to emergency vehicles and personnel when accessing the hydrants.
2. Location and size of openings in the fence and wall. Preliminarily, it appears that the "retaining wall" on the North side of the building would not allow access for the emergency vehicles. The low height of that wall would be accessed by emergency responders who might go over the wall, but would restrict the access to the vehicles. On the East, West and South perimeters, access is severely restricted. We would need more information about location of openings and size of openings.

In addition to the above, any fence makes it difficult, in the event of a mass casualty, for ambulances to access the scene. In such an event, triage and the treatment of victims would be severely compromised.

Ladder trucks would have an issue accessing the premises under the current proposal. As such, safe removal of occupants from the second floor would be nearly impossible. Even if we could access, the time for access would be increased significantly.

While there are roadways surrounding the building, please keep in mind that parents and residents will have already crowded the emergency scene and would potentially restrict the operations of the first responders.

Finally, the plan does not indicate whether "swing gates" would be locked. Locks inhibit response time.

These proposals must meet the minimum requirements of the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building codes of New York State, specifically chapter 5 of the fire code.

It is in our professional opinions that a retaining wall and fence erected for safety of the students can be accomplished with a less restrictive plan. We respectfully request a meeting to further discuss.

Sincerely,



Patrick Theodore
Chief of Department
East Williston Fire Department



William McLean Jr.
Commissioner
East Williston Fire Department

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DAVID E. TANNER

Deputy Mayor
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October 17, 2018

Elaine Kanas, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
East Williston Union Free School District
11 Bacon Road
Old Westbury, NY 11568

RE: Northside Elementary School – Retaining Wall and Perimeter Fence

Dear Dr. Kanas,

I am writing in regards to the drawings received for the proposed retaining wall and fences at the North Side School. As the Superintendent of Buildings my primary concerns relate to the life safety and welfare of community. As per my site visit and review of the proposed drawings, I have several concerns with the proposal that need to be clarified. In order to continue my review to make any recommendations that would be mutually beneficial, below are the clarifications required:

- 1) Contact the appropriate emergency responding agencies for recommendations to accommodate their operations. The factors discussed should be integrated into the design proposal.
- 2) It appears the proposed wall is displayed as a freestanding wall. The grade on the northwest corner and west side of the property appear to have grade changes significant enough to require retaining walls. Label the retaining walls or freestanding walls with heights and the extent of grade changes.
- 3) Grade changes should be noted to determine the extent of grade manipulation
- 4) Indicate a protection plan for the surrounding roads accommodating storm water runoff during and after construction.
- 5) Several trees on the property are not indicated on the plan. It's not clear if this represents removal of trees
- 6) Indicate the distances from the property lines to all proposed structures including fences, freestanding walls and retaining walls
- 7) Indicate the locations of all egress openings in the walls with dimensions.
- 8) Indicate latching or locking specifications for the proposed swing gates.
- 9) Provide pictures displaying the site lines to be potentially affected by the fences/walls proposed to be installed. There is a concern this proposal can impact the site line of traffic at the intersections.

After the review of the resubmitted drawings I will review the plans and a meeting can be scheduled.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jared Mandel', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jared Mandel, AIA
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcer